

Volume 6 Issue 3
Summer 2012

NEWSLETTER OF THE
PACIFIC REGION
CHAPLAIN CORPS

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Ch, Lt Col Paul Ward

From the Region Chaplain ...

This issue of the "Western Watch" comes after two great events which took place in the Pacific Region....the PCR Chaplain Corps Staff College and the Pacific Region Conference. After spending a few days of relaxing following a great deal of time and energy preparing for and participating

in both of these events, I began to reflect on the impact of these events.

There is so much that goes into the planning and conducting either a CCRSC or a conference. What is impressive is the commitment of the staff in making the event one that those who would be attending would receive the best. Col Larry Myrick, PCR CC, has set the tone by reminding each director that whatever event is conducted it is to be *"for the members....it is their conference/staff college/school"*.

Then to see the how the members who are participating respond to the event...the sessions offered but more than that --- the camaraderie. It is great to see how the people from all over the region can come together for one of these events to renew friendships as well as making new friends.

Returning home from the CCRSC on the train, I had lots of time to reflect on the days we spent together at JBLM. From the evaluations, it was evident that the curriculum that was planned met and exceeded Chaplain Riggs and my expectations as did the performance of the staff. But what was even more outstanding was the fellowship and the relationships that were formed and renewed during these days together. That is what makes the CCRSC

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(or a Region Conference) worthwhile and fulfilling. There are the opportunities to meet individuals for the first time that leads to lasting friendships as well as seeing those who have served with receive recognition -- be it appointments, promotions, or awards recognizing their contributions to the organization.

In August, the National Board/Conference will be held in Baltimore. As part of the 70th Anniversary observance of CAP's founding there will be many presentations to mark this landmark in our history. Hope that you can attend this grand event.

In Service Together,

Paul

Remembering Major William "Bill" Rust

Written by Ch, Lt Col Paul Ward

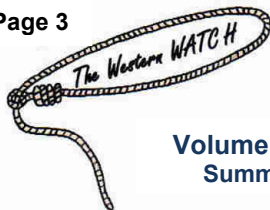
Our dear brother, friend, and colleague Major William "Bill" Rust (ORWG) went home to be with the Lord on Good Friday following a nearly two year battle with cancer.

The first time Bill Rust and I met was at the 2009 Chaplain Corps Region Staff College. I believe it was Bill's first CCRSC...but it did not seem like it. From the word "go", Bill was engaged. It has been my observation that when some people attend an event for the first time, they are hesitant or reluctant to participate. Not so, with Bill. In watching the group dynamics, Bill was never alone. He was always in the middle of a crowd. And what I sensed from our times together at that staff college and the 2010 CCRSC was that Bill did not want the spotlight....he just wanted to make sure that the spotlight is seen. It was always "mission first"...regardless of who received the credit or the honor. He had the attitude of "Let's get the job done and get it done right." It was that passion that was shared in his conversation and his conduct....it was that passion that drew people to him. It was the integrity and humility behind his words and deeds for which he was known and admired for. I also learned never to ask Bill what he thought or felt, unless you wanted to be told the unvarnished truth. That was Bill.



The week after returning home from attending the 2010 Pacific Region Chaplain Corps Staff College, Bill was diagnosed with mesothelioma, a debilitating form of lung cancer caused by asbestos exposure. On May 15, 2010 over 50 members of the Oregon and Washington Wings gathered in Aurora, Oregon for an evening to honor Bill for his service to the Civil Air Patrol. Bill, also known as "Sarge", retired from the Army after 25 years, and was well-known and well-liked member of CAP since moving to the Tillamook area. In addition to serving as Northwest Coastal Squadron Commander, Bill was a Character Development Officer (CDI), and had served in General Emergency Services (GES), including as Ground Team Leader, Ground Branch Director, Urban Direction Finding Team, Mission Radio Operator, Communications Unit Leader, and Liaison Officer on dozens of searches over the years.

Bill's dedication to God...country...family...friends made his service invaluable. He will be missed but never forgotten.



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PACIFIC REGION, CAP

Col Larry F. Myrick
Commander

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Notice To Readers:

The Western WATCH is published quarterly by the Civil Air Patrol Pacific Region Chaplain Corps.

Submissions may be sent to:
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The newsletter is distributed to Pacific Region Chaplains and Character Development Instructors, staff members, and interested parties.

PCR Chaplain Corps Web-Site
<http://hc.pcr.cap.gov>

2012 PCR CHAPLAIN CORPS STAFF COLLEGE



Twenty-three Pacific Region chaplains and character development instructors recently devoted four days to training designed to prepare them to better perform the duties and responsibilities associated with their assignment.

"Called, Loving, Ecumenical Ministry" was the theme of this year's Region Chaplain Corps Staff College, a formal in-residence course held April 16-19 at McChord Field's Chapel Support Center at Joint Base Lewis-McChord.

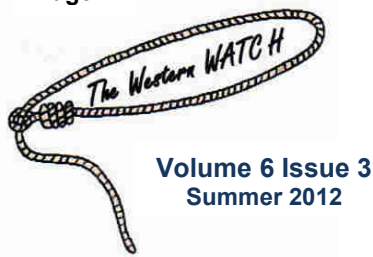
Chaplain, Lt Col Danny Riggs, the Pacific Region's deputy chaplain and Dean of the CCRSC, addressed those characteristics during the college's optional devotional

time each morning. Riggs was assisted by "Chaplain CLEM" – a stuffed bear, dressed in combat fatigues, that quickly became the mascot of the region's Chaplain Corps.

Participants received instruction and training on numerous subjects, including Ministering in Times of Mass Trauma and Disaster, Enjoyable Aerospace Education Activities, Ministry in a Pluralistic Environment, the Civil Air Patrol-U.S. Air Force Relationship, Ethical Decision Making, Best Practices and Character Development presentations by those fulfilling one of the requirements for the Master Rating in the 225 Specialty Training Track (Character Development Instructor).

The heart of the curriculum was a six-hour training session on "Compassion Fatigue" led by Dr. Dan Casey of JEC Counseling Inc., certified by the American Academy of Experts on Traumatic Stress as an expert in trauma response. One participant said later, "This was the most personally impacting session I've attended at any staff college I've been to. It was a life-changer for me."

(2012 CCRSC continued on page 4)



Each participant was assigned to a seminar group featuring activities, discussion or both. Chaplain Col. J. Delano Ellis II, CAP Chief of Chaplains, presented a briefing on what's taking place within the National Chaplain Corps. Before he had to depart, Chaplain Ellis also participated in appointment ceremonies for Chaplain, 1st Lt Kevin Bottgen of the Alaska Wing's Ninth Composite Operations Squadron and Chaplain, Capt Robert Harris of the California Wing's Chino Cadet Squadron 20. Chaplain, Capt Perry

Polk of the California Wing's Travis Composite Squadron 22 also received his appointment as a CAP chaplain.

A memorial service was held to remember Pacific Region colleagues who had passed away since the last college.

The 627th Air Base Group Wing chaplain assigned to McChord Field, U.S. Air Force Chaplain, Maj Matthew Franke, greeted the CAP members and discussed the McChord Chaplain Corps' mission for personnel assigned to the base and their families, as well as how the joint base structure is working out. Franke also was the featured speaker at the staff college's concluding luncheon.

The evening of April 17, several of the students and staff demonstrated their bowling skills – or lack thereof – at Sounders Lanes, where others were on hand to cheer (or jeer) them on in an evening of fun.

During the concluding luncheon, Chaplain, Lt Col Donald Starr received special recognition in observation of his retirement. In his 30 years of service, Starr served as squadron, Washington Wing and Pacific Region chaplain.

Chaplain, Lt Col Paul Ward, Pacific Region chaplain, served as director for the staff college. A Smilebox presentation for this event can be found at:

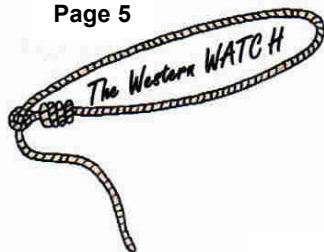
<http://secure.smilebox.com/ecom/openTheBox?sendevent=4d7a457a4e446b354d7a64384>



The USAF conducted a graded SAREX was completed in May. The Alaska Wing got an excellent grade and the chaplaincy got an outstanding and "benchmark". Ch, Lt Col Franklin Blodgett served as the Mission Chaplain.

The "benchmark" was for Chaplain Blodgett's method of keeping the IC and CISM grader and the chaplain grader up to date on what events may become a CISM event or a chaplain event.





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Hawaii Wing just finished their United States Air Force graded SARX in April. Chaplain, Maj Jim Merritt served as the Mission Chaplain and received an outstanding rating for Mission Chaplain.



Chaplain, Lt Col Bob Ledden was appointed as the Oregon Wing Deputy Chaplain. Chaplain Ledden had previously served as the ORWG Chaplain in the late '90's and until 2004. He was serving as Chaplain Emeritus and serves as the PCR Chaplain Corps Professional Development Officer.



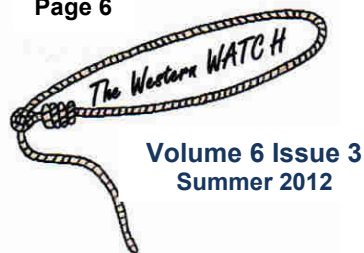
Ch, Lt Col Bob Ledden



The month of March was a very busy month for the members of the Washington and the Chaplain Corps.



2012 Legislative Day at the State Capital in Olympia, WA.
Chaplain, Maj Dave Franklin is on second row (2nd from left) and Chaplain, Lt Col Danny Riggs is on fifth row (1st from left).



Over 100 members of the Washington Wing attended a breakfast hosted by Sen Jim Honeyford (WA 15th District and member/Lt Col, CC of the WAWG Legislative Squadron) and were in the gallery to observe a resolution adopted by the House of Representatives (HR 4662) recognizing the Washington Wing for their outstanding service to the citizens of Washington.

One of the co-sponsors of the resolution was Representative Joe Schmick (WA 9th District and member/Maj in the WAWG Legislative Squadron). Chaplain, Maj Dave Franklin (Yakima Composite Squadron/WAWG HCD) offered the invocation for the opening session of the House of Representatives.

On the right: Chaplain Dave Franklin and Representative Joe Schmick are pictured together in the House Chambers.



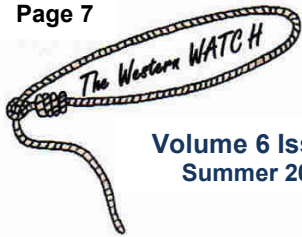
WASHINGTON WING SPRING CONFERENCE

During the Spring Washington Wing Conference held at Joint Base Lewis-McChord, April 13-15, several members of the WAWG Chaplain Corps received recognition for their outstanding service.



Maj Gerald "Gerry" Prior of the Overlake Composite Squadron was named the Character Development Instructor of the Year (*pictured with Col Dave Lehman - WAWG CC and Ch, Lt Col Danny Riggs – WAWG HC*); Ch, Lt Col William Adam III of the Peninsula Composite Squadron was named the Squadron Chaplain of the Year (*pictured with Col Lehman and Chaplain Riggs*); Lt Col Donald Starr received the Exceptional Service Award for his outstanding service to the Washington Wing throughout the years as a Squadron Chaplain, Deputy Wing Chaplain, Wing Chaplain and to the Pacific Region as the Region and Deputy Region Chaplain (*pictured with Col Lehman, Col Larry Myrick – PCR CC and Chaplain Riggs*). Chaplain Starr officially retired following the Wing Conference. He was also recognized at the Pacific Region Chaplain Corps Staff College for his faithful service and contributions to the PCR Chaplain Corps. Chaplain Starr mentored so many chaplains and served as a model of ministry for all the members of the WAWG/PCR Chaplain Corps.

Congratulations to each of these members of the Washington Wing for the recognition received!!!



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Major Deborah Kawaguchi

MAJOR DEBORAH KAWAGUCHI NAMED AS ESCORT FOR USA TEAM TO THE UK

Each summer, hundreds of cadets from eighteen nations come together to broaden their understanding of aviation and foreign cultures through the International Air Cadet Exchange (IACE).

Maj Debroah Kawaguchi (WAWG) was selected as a senior member escort for 6 cadets to the UK. CAP is the sponsoring agency and will be sending 17 senior members, 60 cadets to 15 countries this summer. Twelve wings will be hosting IACE participants.



PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT AWARDS

This member of the PCR Chaplain Corps attained the following award in the Senior Member Professional Development Program. We are proud of his accomplishment.



Level 5 – Gill Robb Wilson

Ch, Maj Harlan Confer II – CAWG

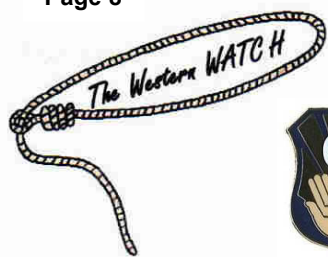


40 YEAR SERVICE CERTIFICATE

During the WAWG staff meeting conducted on May 12th at the WAWG HQ, Chaplain (Lt Col) William Adam III was the recipient of the 40 year service certificate. Chaplain Adam began his service as a cadet in 1971 with the Bakersfield Cadet Squadron (PCR-CA-121). As a cadet he earned the Earhart award. He continued to serve in CAP during his college years in Texas and his Air Force years in Arizona (a F-4 pilot) as a senior member. Upon leaving the USAF as a 2nd Lt in 1983, Chaplain Adam became a law enforcement officer in Washington. He was appointed as a CAP Chaplain in 2003. He is accomplished in the area of emergency services, holding 33 ES ratings. Chaplain Adam has earned the Yeager Award in AE and has completed Level 4 earning the Garber Award. He has been an Encampment Chaplain on three occasions. Chaplain Adam serves as the Squadron Chaplain for the Peninsula Composite Squadron (PCR-WA-051) and a Deputy Wing Chaplain. He has been recognized as the WAWG Squadron Chaplain of the Year on three occasions and the PCR Squadron Chaplain of the Year in 2010.



Chaplain, Lt Col William Adam III (L)
receiving certificate from
Col Ted Tax, WAWG CV (R).



WELCOME ABOARD!!!! New Appointments



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Chaplain, 1st Lt Kevin Bottjen (AKWG)
Chaplain, Capt Dale Fink (CAWG)
Chaplain, Capt Robert Harris (CAWG)
Maj Richard McCune (CAWG)
Chaplain, Capt Perry Polk (CAWG)



It was with a great deal of joy to see three chaplains have their appointments recognized during the 2012 CCRSC. Chaplain, 1st Lt Kevin Bottjen (AKWG) received his official certificate of appointment (pictured with Ch, Lt Col Blair Rorabaugh – AKWG HC and Ch, Lt Col Paul Ward – PCR HC). The Chief of Chaplains, Col J. Delano Ellis II pinned the cross on Chaplain, Capt Robert Harris (CAWG). Chaplain, Capt Perry Polk (CAWG) received his appointment/promotion from Senior Member to Captain (Pictured with Chaplain Ward; Ch, Maj Richard Nelson – CAWG HC; Ch, Lt Col George Dawson – CAWG HC emeritus and Ch, Lt Col William Adam III – CCRSC protocol officer/WAWG HCD).



***Start planning now to attend the
2012 National Board/Conference!!***



DATES: 22-25 August

LOCATION: Baltimore, MD
Waterfront Marriott

Online Registration:

<https://events.caphq.gov/OnlineStore/2012AnnualConferenceandNationalBoard.aspx>

CAP CORE VALUES



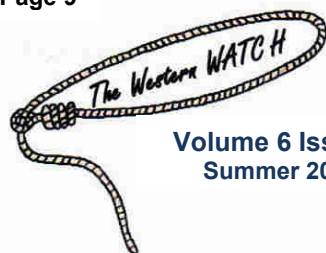
-- Integrity

-- Volunteer Service

-- Excellence

-- Respect

***For more information on the Core Values
of the Civil Air Patrol, consult CAPP 50-2***



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REGION AWARDS PRESENTED AT 2012 PCR CONFERENCE



CHARACTER DEVELOPMENT INSTRUCTOR OF THE YEAR:

Major Gerald "Gerry" Prior joined the Overlake Composite Squadron (WAWG) in July 2005 and has been an active participant ever since. Although his higher profile contribution has been as the unit's Safety Officer, Gerry has been doing an outstanding job as our unit Character Development Instructor. Major Prior holds a Senior Rating in Character Development and leads the character development classes each month. Gerry's friendliness and cheerfulness help make the Character Development sessions for the cadets really enjoyable. Because of Major Prior's dedication the unit is able to schedule character development classes on the same evening each month and know that Gerry will arrive prepared, on-time, and give an interesting class that everyone will enjoy.



Major Gerald Prior (WAWG)

SQUADRON CHAPLAIN OF THE YEAR:

Chaplain, Major Richard Nelson has served as Chaplain for Skyhawks Composite Squadron 47 (CAWG) since 2005. He actively assists the color guard, attends BCS, NCOS, and any other activity needing support. Richard has also served as a Chaplain at recent Wing Encampments and as a Mission Chaplain at various SAREX's. He is also responsible for coordinating the Squadron Color Guard presenting the colors at the Padres baseball games and at the Chargers football games in San Diego in front of millions of people.

Chaplain Nelson served as the CAWG Critical Incident Stress Officer from 2007 until his appointment as California Wing Chaplain in January 2012.



Ch, Maj Richard Nelson (CAWG)

SENIOR CHAPLAIN OF THE YEAR:

Chaplain, Lt Col Danny Riggs began his CAP career in 2005 as the McChord Composite Squadron (WAWG) following his retirement as a USAF Chaplain. In that same year, he was appointed as the Deputy Washington Wing Chaplain.

Chaplain Riggs served as the Deputy Washington Wing Chaplain from 2005 to 2007, when he was appointed to serve as the Washington Wing Chaplain. He has served as an Encampment Chaplain as well as a Mission Chaplain. Danny is a valuable asset to the WAWG Headquarters and Command Staff. He is mentoring many chaplains in the WAWG. In 2009, he served as the Project Officer for the PCR Chaplain Corps Region Staff College at McChord AFB.

Chaplain Riggs was appointed to serve as the Deputy Region Chaplain (in addition to his duties as the Washington Wing Chaplain) in 2011.



Ch, Lt Col Danny Riggs (WAWG)

CONGRATULATIONS FOR A JOB WELL DONE!!!